

Arthur Woods

A Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Michael Spangler



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2005

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

**Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress
Manuscript Division, 2007**

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms007032>

Collection Summary

Title: Papers of Arthur Woods

Span Dates: 1884-1938

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1914-1923)

ID No.: MSS49619

Creator: Woods, Arthur, 1870-1942

Extent: 150 items; 1 container plus 6 oversize; 1.4 linear feet; 3 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Police commissioner and military officer. Diary, correspondence, reports, notes, scrapbooks, clippings, and photographs chiefly documenting the service of Arthur Woods as New York City police commissioner, colonel in the Division of Military Aeronautics, United States War Department, and assistant to the secretary of war.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Names:

Woods, Arthur, 1870-1942

Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison), 1874-1960

United States. War Dept.

United States. War Dept. Division of Military Aeronautics

Subjects:

Airplanes, Military--United States--Maintenance and repair

Airplanes, Military--Piloting--United States

Airplanes, Military--United States--Design and construction

Military readiness

Police administration--New York (State)--New York

Unemployment--United States

Vocational rehabilitation--United States

World War, 1914-1918

Boston (Mass.)--Social life and customs

United States--Defenses

Williamsburg (Va.)--History

Occupations:

Army officers

Police commissioners

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Arthur Woods, police commissioner and military officer, were given to the Library of Congress by his son, John Woods, in 1972.

Processing History:

The papers of Arthur Woods were prepared for microfilming in 1987. The finding aid was revised in 2005.

Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Arthur Woods is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Microfilm:

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on three reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Arthur Woods Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1870, Jan. 29	Born, Boston, Mass.
1892	A.B., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1895-1905	Educator, Groton School, Groton, Mass.
1907-1909	Deputy police commissioner, New York, N.Y.
1914-1918	Police commissioner, New York, N.Y.
1916	Married Helen Morgan Hamilton
1918-1919	Colonel, Division of Military Aeronautics, United States War Department
1919	Assistant to the secretary of war in charge of efforts to reestablish servicemen in civil life
1921-1922	Chairman, Committee on Civic and Emergency Measures, President's Conference on Unemployment
1927-1931	Assisted John D. Rockefeller (1874-1960) in restoration of historic Williamsburg, Va.
1930-1931	Chairman, President's Commission for Unemployment
1942, May 12	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Arthur H. Woods (1870-1942) span the years 1884-1938, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1914-1923. The collection focuses primarily on Woods's work as police commissioner for New York City, his military service, and his activities regarding unemployment and vocational rehabilitation for servicemen immediately after World War I. The papers contain a diary, correspondence, reports, notes, scrapbooks, clippings, and photographs organized by type of material and thereunder alphabetically or chronologically.

The diary is a record of Woods's adolescence in Boston, Massachusetts, with descriptions of school activities, athletic events, friends, and family. Notable among the documents pertaining to his work as police commissioner are reports with comments by hoteliers, saloon keepers, and pimps regarding Woods and police activities. Correspondence and reports on criminal

activities are also contained in the files. Reports and field notes on airplane production and maintenance, pilot training, and military preparedness represent Woods's service in the Division of Military Aeronautics with the American Expeditionary Forces in France and Great Britain during World War I. Other reports and correspondence in the collection pertain to Woods's work as assistant to the secretary of war coordinating vocational rehabilitation for returning servicemen and his service with the President's Conference on Unemployment in 1921-1922. Scrapbooks of clippings relate principally to his activities with the New York City police. They also document his work with John D. Rockefeller (1874-1960) during the 1920s and 1930s, including Rockefeller's support of the restoration of historic Williamsburg, Virginia.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material and thereunder alphabetically or chronologically.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 19,604

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Diary, 1884-1888
REEL 1	
BOX 1	Subject File
REEL 1	
BOX 1	Assistant to secretary of war, vocational rehabilitation of servicemen, 1919-1923
REEL 1	
BOX 1	Military Aeronautics Division, 1918-1919, 1938
REEL 1	
	(3 folders)
BOX 1	Photographs and miscellany, 1918, 1926-1931
REEL 1	
BOX 1	New York City Police Commissioner, 1907-1924
REEL 1	
BOX 1	President's Conference on Unemployment, 1921-1922
REEL 1	
	(2 folders)
BOX 1	Special Committee to Investigate Unemployment and Relief, United States Senate, 1937
REEL 1	
BOX 2	Scrapbooks (Oversize)
REEL 1	
BOX 2	1914, Sept.-1915, June
REEL 1	
BOX 3	1916, June-1917, Jan.
REEL 2	
BOX 4	1917
REEL 2	
BOX 4	June-July
REEL 2	
BOX 5	June-Dec.
REEL 2	
BOX 6	1924, Apr.-1932, Oct.
REEL 3	
BOX 7	1930, Dec.
REEL 3	